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#15/Election
6-4-03
JW9D-HR-19109
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Masker et al. : Art Unit: 3634
Serial No.: 09/480,345 : Examiner: Harris, Erica
Filed: January 10, 2000 :
For: SPILLPROOF REFRIGERATOR
SHELF

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Office Action dated May 6, 2003, Applicant elects for prosecution in this application all claims that belong to Group II, i.e., Claims 6-20.

Reconsideration of the restriction requirement imposed under 35 U.S.C. §121 is respectfully requested.

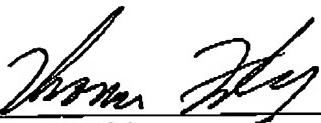
A restriction to either Invention I, consisting of Claims 1 and 3-5 drawn to a method of making assembling a shelf, classified in class 428, subclass 2 or Invention II, consisting of Claims 6-20, drawn to a apparatus/method for rinsing, classified in class 211, subclass 153, was imposed. In response, Applicant elects with traverse to prosecute the invention of Group II, Claims 6-20.

The requirement for election is traversed because the inventions set out by the claims in Groups I and II are clearly related. Applicants submit that a thorough search and examination of

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PATENT

any one Group would be relevant to the examination of the other Group and would not be a burden on the Examiner. Additionally, requirements for election are not mandatory under 35 U.S.C. §121. Accordingly, reconsideration of the election requirement is requested.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: June 2, 2003

*Please Deliver To:***Name:** Examiner Erica Harris**Firm:** U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**Tel:** (703) 306-9071**Fax:** (703) 872-9326**From:** Thomas M. Fisher

: Serial Number: 09/480,345

: Docket: 9D-HR-19109

PAPERS TRANSMITTED:

: Amendment Transmittal (3 pgs.)

: Response to Restriction Requirement of 5/6/03

: (2 pages)

: Fax Transmittal

*Total pages including cover page: 6**If all pages are not received, please contact Mandy Robinson at (314) 621-5070, ext. 7447*

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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office,
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Date: June 2, 2003

 Thomas M. Fisher
 Registration No. 47,564
Applicant: Masker et al.**Serial No.:** 09/480,345**Filed:** January 10, 2000**Art Unit:** 3634**Examiner:** Harris, Erica**Atty. Dkt. No.:** 9D-HR-19109 (13307-59)**For:** SPILLPROOF REFRIGERATOR SHELF

FAX RECEIVED

JUN 03 2003

GROUP 3600

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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 9D-HR-19109

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Masker et al.

Group No.: 3634

Serial No.: 09/480,345

Examiner: Harris, Erica

Filed: January 10, 2000

For: SPILLPROOF
REFRIGERATOR SHELF

Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is:
Response to Restriction Requirement of May 6, 2003 (2 pages)
Transmittal for Restriction Requirement (3 pages)
Fax Cover Sheet (1 page)

STATUS

2. Applicant

X claims small entity status.
is other than a small entity.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

MAILING
 deposited with the United States Postal Service
Express Mail Label No. _____ addressed to the
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria,
VA 22313-1450

Date: _____

FACSIMILE
 transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and
Trademark Office


Thomas M. Fisher
Reg No. 47,564

EXTENSION OF TERM

3. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136 apply.

(complete (a) or (b), as applicable)

- (a) Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136
(Fees: 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)-(d) for the total number of months checked below:)

Extension for response within:	Other than small entity Fee	Small entity Fee (if applicable)
first month	\$ 110.00	\$ 55.00
second month	\$ 410.00	\$ 205.00
third month	\$ 930.00	\$ 465.00
fourth month	\$1,450.00	\$ 725.00
fifth month	\$1,970.00	\$ 985.00

Fee: \$

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.

(Check and complete the next item, if applicable)

An extension of _____ months has already been secured. The fee paid therefor \$ _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested.

Extension fee due with this request \$ _____.

OR

- (b) Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

FEE FOR CLAIMS

4. The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	SMALL ENTITY	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	ADDITIONAL- RATE FEE OR	ADDITIONAL RATE FEE	
TOTAL INDEP.		MINUS	=	x \$9 = \$	x \$18 = \$	
		MINUS	=	x \$42 = \$	x \$84 = \$	
		FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM		+ \$140 = \$	+ \$280 = \$	
				TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE \$	OR	TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE \$

(a) No additional fee for Claims is required

OR

(b) _____ Total additional fee for claims required \$ _____

FEE PAYMENT

5. _____ Attached is a check in the sum of \$ _____

_____ Charge Deposit Account No. 01-2384 the sum of \$ _____.

_____ A duplicate of this transmittal is attached.

FEE DEFICIENCY

6. If any additional extension and/or fee is required, charge Deposit Account No. 01-2384.

AND/OR

If any additional fee for claims is required, charge Deposit Account No. 01-2384.

7. _____ Other:



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